# Testimony

Resolution 20-21

# Kaka'ako Ūnited

February 3, 2020

To: City Council, Committee on Zoning, Planning and Housing. Ron Menor, Chair, Tommy Waters, Vice Chair

From: Doug Valenta President and Klaus Radtke, Vice-President, Kakaako United

Subject: In opposition to Resolution 20-21: The SMA application should not be approved as long as references to the 'inclusive playground' remain within the wording of the FEIS. Any mention of the inclusive playground should be removed.

Kaka'ako United, is a voluntary community group working together to ensure a quality Kaka'ako community from Mauka to Makai. The Ala Moana Regional Park is in our district and we all love and use our People's Park

It thus is of a major concern that Resolution 20-21 adopts the FEIS accepted on August 12,2019, which includes the inclusive playground in Ala Moana Regional Park and the SMA application. Any mention of the inclusive playground must be removed from the SMA

On behalf of our members and residents, we request that any references to the 'inclusive park be removed from SMA Use Permit No. 2019/SMA-36. Resolution 20-21 should delete the playground reference in all documents. May we also remind the Council that the Mayor announced that the inclusive playground will be built at an alternative location so it should be deleted from the SMA application.

Respectfully submitted in written testimony

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TO: Committee on Zoning, Planning and Housing

City Council, City & County of Honolulu

The Honorable Ron Menor, Chair

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Vice Chair

FROM: Historic Hawai'i Foundation

Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director

RE: Resolution 20-21: Special Management Area Use Permit

at Ala Moana Park and Magic Island

Honolulu, Island of Oʻahu

TMK: (1) 2-3-037:001, 002, 022, 023, 025

**HEARING:** Thursday, February 6, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Council Meeting Room, Honolulu Hale

Historic Hawai'i Foundation is submitting comments with concerns and recommended amendments related to to the Application for a Special Management Area (SMA) Use Permit from the Department of Design and Construction (DDC) for the proposed park and facilities improvements at Ala Moana Regional Park (AMRP) and Magic Island as described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, accepted August 12, 2019.

The Project Area includes the entire Ala Moana Park and Magic Island Peninsula. Of the project area, the historic Ala Moana Park (TMK 2-3-37:001) is the portion listed on the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places.

#### Summary of HHF Comments and Concerns

The SMA permit application includes 17 projects to be implemented over the span of 10 years to improve the Park's grounds and facilities. Of these, two are located outside the historic district boundary. Although they are older than 50 years, the applicant did not evaluate them for historic significance. Four of the projects were submitted to the State Historic Preservation Division for review and concurrence; SHPD's conditions for concurrence were not incorporated into the SMA's description of work. The remaining 11 projects have the potential to harm historic features if constructed as currently proposed.

### Interests of Historic Hawai'i Foundation

Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF) is a statewide non-profit organization established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of sites, buildings, structures, objects and districts that are significant to the history of Hawai'i.

### Historic Hawai'i Foundation's Comments and Recommendations

HHF supports efforts to provide regular and routine maintenance and repair of historic properties, as well as rehabilitation for deteriorated or neglected historic structures, buildings and landscapes, so long as such efforts follow appropriate standards and guidelines for the treatment of historic properties.

While HHF is pleased that the City is making strides to address issues with the longevity, usability and appearance of the Park, we are extremely concerned that the project description in the SMA Application—which includes by reference the descriptions in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)—is not based on historic preservation standards, guidelines and best practices.

HHF Comment: Of the identified historic resources, evaluation and project effect are discussed for only six. The FEIS says no work is being done on three of the six; however, the SMA application states that work will include major capital changes and effects on the historic fabric. Therefore, the SMA's reliance on the FEIS description of the proposed work is inconsistent, inaccurate and contradictory.

HHF Comment: The SMA's description of the work at the three additional locations not evaluated in the FEIS includes significant demolition and destruction of historic character-defining features. There are no references to applying appropriate preservation standards. Therefore, the SMA does not meet the requirements for treatment of historic properties.

HHF Comment: The park's historic resources include the spatial arrangement of open space and foliage, as well as the landscaping, open lawns, exceptional trees and other vegetation. The SMA proposes adding major new facilities, including a multi-use area at or near the historic lawn bowling green, a playground, a dog park, and relocation of maintenance facilities. The direct, indirect and cumulative effect of the major new construction would obliterate the open space design and spatial relationships. These open areas, vistas and trees are important elements of the historic park design. Therefore, these projects would have an adverse effect on historic properties.

HHF Comment: The reviews of historic features contained in the FEIS and SMA application do not meet professional standards for identification and evaluation of a historic property. It is a partial assessment, focused on only six of the identified 14 historic features within the park, rather than the Park district as a whole; it does not assess the overall design, contributing features or how the entire preferred alternative will affect the entire historic property. Therefore, the assessment and evaluation are inadequate and do not meet standards for identification and assessment of effect.

**HHF Recommendation**: Full identification of historic features needs to be conducted in accordance with professional standards and scope by appropriate preservation professionals to remedy to gaps and inconsistencies in the prior reports.

HHF Recommendation: The SMA conditions need to include design parameters with explicit and enforceable commitments to apply the Secretary of the Interiors' Standards for Rehabilitation to the historic buildings, structures and landscapes. Specific recommendations by historic feature are detailed in the attachment below.

#### **Conclusions**

HHF supports many elements of the proposed Park improvements, including increased staffing and maintenance; increased security measures; repair and maintenance of irrigation systems and circulation systems; and appropriate repair and maintenance of historic buildings and features.

However, HHF remains concerned with the more aggressive elements of the plan, especially those that will modify or adversely affect historic resources.

HHF recommends either that the SMA be amended to include the recommendations and address the issues outlined above, or that it be denied if the recommended conditions are not met.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

The following discussion addresses the historic architectural features at Ala Moana Park and Historic Hawaii Foundation's recommendations for conditions to be included in the Special Management Area Permit.

Historic Feature [Year built]	HHF Recommendations for SMA Conditions
1. Thoroughfare/Looped Drive Road [1932]	<ul> <li>Do not remove grass and trees at makai walkway to widen walkway into shared-use path</li> <li>Do not add perpendicular parking to mauka side</li> <li>Do not remove trees lining mauka side</li> <li>Integrate design for central terrace and pergolas into overall roadway maintenance and improvements.</li> </ul>
2. Hawaiian Lagoon [1932]	<ul> <li>Use existing remnants of original pond edge walls on which to base reconstruction design. Match original design in location, style, materials and construction type</li> <li>Rehabilitation work should be designed by a landscape architect who meets the SOI professional qualifications</li> <li>Coordinate Hawaiian pond design and landscaping with adjacent Canoe Hālau</li> </ul>
3. Japanese Lagoon [1932]	<ul> <li>Use existing remnants of original pond edge walls on which to base reconstruction design. Match original design in location, style, materials and construction type</li> <li>Rehabilitation work should be designed by a landscape architect who meets the SOI professional qualifications</li> </ul>
4. Drainage Canal [1932]	<ul> <li>HHF concurs with the proposals:</li> <li>For sections of canal wall that have failed propose replacement with a precast concrete panel, finished to match adjacent surface (two approximately 100-foot segments).</li> <li>Adjacent existing sound walls to be reinforced with concealed structure behind canal wall and below grade, with the face re-plastered to match existing.</li> </ul>
5. High Spot Improvements /Central Terraces, Pergolas [1932]	<ul> <li>HHF concurs that this Central Terrace and the adjacent Pergolas features of the park should be repaired and adapted to contemporary uses in conjunction with the Shared Use Path and the proposed Pi'ikoi Pedestrian Entrance.</li> <li>Appropriate rehabilitation should include:</li> <li>Replace missing trellises to match historic design, location and materials (or contemporary replacement material that matches historic appearance).</li> <li>Restore historic walls and steps matching historic design, location and materials.</li> <li>Provide ADA access with minimal alteration to historic features, separate from the restored stairs</li> <li>Design a connection to the proposed Pi'ikoi pedestrian entrance drawing inspiration from the design as envisioned in the 1936 Plan with hardscape, water features and landscaping.</li> </ul>
6. Pi'ikoi Entrance/Central Axis [1936]	HHF concurs with the intent to implement this central pedestrian entrance, within the larger context of developing the central axis across to the Central Terrace and Pergolas.  Appropriate rehabilitation should include:

Historic Feature	
[Year built]	HHF Recommendations for SMA Conditions
	<ul> <li>HHF concurs with the proposed boxed culvert and bridge railing design as shown in DEIS Appendix D-3 enhanced with appropriate landscaping at Pi'ikoi.</li> <li>Do not remove the existing tock wall along Ala Moana Boulevard</li> <li>Do not widen the Queen Street entrance or add wide expanses of concrete or asphalt walkways.</li> <li>Assuming that the Pi'ikoi entrance is developed into an inviting pedestrian entrance, the three remaining small bridge crossings (Ward block, Queen Street and Park Lane) should remain secondary, enhanced with landscaping, and not be relocated or widened.</li> <li>HHF concurs with creating a secondary sense of entry at the Kamakee Street end of the Park.</li> <li>The existing historic low rock walls should not be altered. New walls, entry portals and signage should complement the historic, but be differentiated.</li> <li>Complementary design of added features and landscaping should be performed in conjunction with an architect and a landscape architect meeting the SOI</li> </ul>
7. Spatial arrangement; Alternating areas of foliage and open space, landscaping and vegetation [ca. 1932]	<ul> <li>Do not remove any exceptional trees.</li> <li>All trees and landscaping that are diseased or not viable should be replaced with the same or similar species and in the same locations.</li> <li>Introduction of street trees, and other landscape features should be developed within the context of an overall professionally designed, long-range landscape plan.</li> <li>A landscape architect meeting the SOI professional qualifications should develop and implement a master landscaping plan</li> <li>Do not locate any new facilities or relocated facilities (dog park, playground, ocean safety office, maintenance base yard, etc.) in areas historically designated as open space or passive recreation areas.</li> </ul>
8. Entry Portals / Scalloped Walls (aka Roosevelt Portals) [1934]	<ul> <li>HHF concurs with the restoration/rehabilitation and long-term preservation of this important historic feature. Appropriate rehabilitation for the portals, scalloped walls, plaza and restored planting should include:</li> <li>A thorough structural investigation with repair methods should be performed in conjunction with an architect and/or engineer meeting the SOI professional qualifications.</li> <li>HHF agrees that a corrosion-inhibiting concrete penetrating sealer is the recommended material to be used to protect the outer surface of the portals from moisture without disturbance to its historical nature.</li> <li>Repair materials, details and finishes should match the historic features and comply with SOI Standards for Rehabilitation.</li> <li>Any new "screen" or introduced landscape feature should not obstruct the view of the portals.</li> <li>New shade trees should be consistent with the overall landscape master plan (described above).</li> </ul>
9. Equestrian (aka Bridle) canal bridge [1934]	HHF concurs that this significant historic feature needs to be preserved and repaired.  Appropriate rehabilitation should include:

Historic Feature [Year built]	HHF Recommendations for SMA Conditions
	<ul> <li>Thorough structural investigation and repair methods should be performed in conjunction with an architect and/or engineer meeting the SOI professional qualifications.</li> <li>Use materials matching original design and finishes.</li> <li>If needed, a safety railing should be a simple curved metal railing which is differentiated from, and secondary to, the historic concrete bridge</li> </ul>
10. Keyhole Parking Area [1935]	<ul> <li>Do not reconfigure the parking area in a manner that eliminates the spatial organization as a "keyhole." DEIS Option 3 retains the circular keyhole layout and loses only 7 parking stalls compared to the destructive Option 2 plan. Option 3 is an acceptable alternative to retaining the existing layout.</li> <li>Do not remove exceptional trees.</li> </ul>
11. Sports Pavilion [1937]	Repair and rehabilitate to the historic appearance following the SOI Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.
12. Banyan Courtyard [1937]	<ul> <li>Plant four new banyans where four large Exceptional banyans will be removed due to disease/non-viability.</li> <li>Repair and rehabilitate to the historic appearance following the SOI Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.</li> </ul>
13. Tennis Courts [1937]	Maintain and repair as needed. Avoid major work affecting this historic resource.
14. Lawn Bowling Green [1939, renovated 1966-67]	Maintain and repair as needed. Avoid major work affecting this historic resource.
15. McCoy Pavilion [1975]*  *although not yet 50 years old, this feature should also be treated following the appropriate standards due to its proximity and relationship to the other features	Repair and rehabilitate to the historic appearance following the SOI Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.



February 4, 2020

Committee on Zoning, Planning, and Housing City Council of the City and County of Honolulu Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-3077

Re:

Agenda Item No. 5: Testimony of KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance against the Resolution 20-21, granting a Special Management Area permit proposed for Ala Moana regional park development, Honolulu, O'ahu

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to strongly oppose Resolution 20-21, granting City's proposed Special Management Area (SMA) permit application for Ala Moana regional park developments.

KAHEA is a community-based organization that advocates for the proper stewardship of our resources and for social responsibility by promoting cultural understanding and environmental justice.

We reviewed the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the overall Ala Moana redevelopment project and found the premise, disclosures, and mitigation for the proposed beach nourishment project wholly insufficient. The SMA application relies heavily on this insufficient EIS and reproduces several of its flaws.

We are concerned about adverse impacts to cultural and recreational resources. These include open space, which will be compromised through redevelopment of the bowling lawn and keyhole into "multiuse" areas and parking lots. Cultural resources include the sand crabs and other invertebrates who are the food for take and nearshore fish and who will be destroyed by dumping 70,000 cubic yards of sand as part of an ill-advised sand replenishment project. Cultural resources include shell collecting, nearshore fish, and surf breaks - including access to surf breaks - and the coral reefs that create those breaks.

All of these resources are adversely impacted by increasing park traffic. This nowhere discussed in the EIS or the SMA. There is no Ka Pa'akai analysis. Rather, they uncritically tout increasing visitor use without disclosing impacts on the park and nearshore areas.

Creating further visitor attractions will cause significant degradation of public trust resources in the absence of protective measures. Rather, in regard to land use, the SMA application includes the inconsistent conclusion: "The proposed projects would have no potential impact on the land use at the Park. The project would allow improvements of the existing facilities and grounds which serve as a main recreational resource for countless residents and visitors." Installing further

**PROTECTING** 

NATIVE HAWAIIAN

**CUSTOMARY &** 

TRADITIONAL RIGHTS AND

**OUR FRAGILE** 

**ENVIRONMENT** 

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www.KAHEA.org kahea-alliance@hawaii.rr.com

KAHEA: the Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance is a non-profit 501(c)3 working to protect the unique natural and cultural resources of the Hawaiian islands. KAHEA translates to English as "the call." recreational amenities for "countless residents and visitors" will have a significant, detrimental impact on Park lands.

Proposals to increase parking spaces or bridge width do not mitigate impacts including crowded, dangerous surf breaks, surf schools of novice surfers in "reef walkers" stomping on fragile coral, overflowing rubbish bins, and sunscreen oil spilling across the ocean surface. This is something we already see increasing at Ala Moana. See SMA §§ 2.2.3 (bridge widening), 2.2.4, 2.2.6, 2.2.7 (parking reconfiguration and expansion), 2.2.16 (multi-use facility).

The SMA application also includes one of the largest sand replenishment actions in the U.S. and yet fails to disclose the significant impacts on beach ecosystems. SMA § 2.2.7. First, the City's application confusingly only includes the beach replenishment project mauka of the shoreline and disclaims responsibility to DLNR or other entities for submerged lands. We have received inconsistent information about whether a conservation district use permitting procedure will be followed for the offshore beach dredging and placement on the shore.

In any case, segmenting the project this way is inconsistent with the purpose of the Coastal Zone and Management Act and is anyway unsupported by a shoreline determination or discussion of why such a determination is unnecessary. The high wash of the waves hits the existing bathroom structure and often spills across the sidewalk. So it is unclear whether and how the city is distinguishing the SMA from OCCL areas.

Second, the purported "need" for the beach nourishment is to improve beach recreation, but none of the impacts of increased beach usage are reviewed or disclosed. In any case, improving beach usage is a trivial "need" by comparison with other areas in which beach replenishment is called for by severe erosion and sea level rise that is actually threatening to take out coastal buildings and has already caused homeowners to retreat.

Creating further visitor attractions will cause significant degradation of public trust resources in the absence of protective measures. The SMA permit application proposes nothing to protect Ala Moana park and its nearshore resources. By contrast, environmental review for the beach replenishment project at Kahana Bay, Maui specifically emphasized the need to review impacts of increased beach use and associated parking and traffic on the actual resources. None of these are considered in the City's application. In Kahana, Maui, managed retreat was opposed on the basis that the shoreline is lined with major roads and large condominium structures. By contrast, Ala Moana is a park and the plan should be to create plans to adapt to erosion instead of creating further, questionable bulwarks against sea level rise.

The City's proposed beach replenishment is unnecessary. It amounts to a scheme to increase the beach area for nearby condominium-associated concierge and vendor services to cater to tourists. These activities are poorly regulated by the City and the supporting documents for the application do not disclose the impacts of these extended uses of Ala Moana beach public trust resources.

Experts reviewing the ecological impact of beach replenishment have weighed in against the Ala Moana beach replenishment project on the basis that it will impact invertebrate populations and have undisclosed ripple effects across the larger ecosystem. See Christina Jedra, "Ala Moana Sand Replenishment will kill Sand-Dwelling Creatures, Researchers Say," Civil Beat (Aug. 28, 2019) available at: <a href="https://www.civilbeat.org/2019/08/ala-moana-sand-replenishment-will-kill-sand-dwelling-creatures-researchers-say/">https://www.civilbeat.org/2019/08/ala-moana-sand-replenishment-will-kill-sand-dwelling-creatures-researchers-say/</a>. KAHEA members include Hawaiian cultural practitioners whose fishing and diving practices at Ala Moana beach and nearshore areas rely on healthy ecosystems. We have seen octopi hunting for sand crabs near

the shore, schools of oama and halalu, and other fish in near shore in areas proposed for beach replenishment.

Sand dredging offshore, even at areas without coral or sea grasses, will impact areas that are recreational resources for divers and surfers. KAHEA members dive for sand-bottom dwelling fish in areas outside of Ala Moana and surf at breaks that are not reviewed in the Ala Moana EIS. The EIS only reviewed the impacts of sand dredging from a few angles of southwest swell on three breaks. However, there are at least twelve breaks at Ala Moana and those breaks pull in swell from up to 180 degrees. The City contractor's modeling did not review those impacts.

The undisclosed potential of sand dredging to impact irreplaceable surf breaks and diving resources wholly outweighs any concern and interest in further extending sandy beach for an unmeasured amount of future beach users.

As disclosed by the City's contractors, Sea Engineering Inc., the sand from previous replenishment projects has simply been drawn back into the swim channel over the years. The City's plan then amounts to adding another 70,000 cubic yards of sand to the swim channel ad infinitum. There has been no study on the ways that continuing to fill the swim channel will impact the nearshore reefs and other ecosystems, including juvenile fish habitat within the channel, that could inform any decisionmakers about the significant issues with the proposed beach replenishment.

Finally, KAHEA opposes the dog park on the basis that the application contains incomplete information. The statement that the "park's underlying layer of coral fill material, used to fill the shallow mud flats, enables stormwater to percolate into the ground" (SMA § 2.2.1) does not square with regular observations of flooding in that area during and after medium to heavy rains. Proposed mitigation measures in the form of shrubs planted near the drainage canal are inadequate to stem flooding and overflow of animal feces particulates into Kewalo harbor, which is an area in which manta rays and other marine life have been observed.

For these reasons, please deny the City's application and require the City to better support its application.

Me ka mahalo nui,

Bianca Isaki, Secretary KAHEA Board of Directors and Staff, 2019-20 From:

**CLK Council Info** 

Sent: Subject: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 10:29 AM

Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

## Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name

Namah Grace

Phone

8087722185

Email

Nightskysongs@hotmail.com

**Meeting Date** 

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Council

Committee Agenda Item

Res 20-21

Your position on

Oppose

the matter

- 1-1---

Representing

Self

Organization

Save Ala Moana Beach Park

Do you wish to speak at the hearing?

No

Mahalo to you, our Council members, for your continued careful consideration and oversight of matters many of us regular park users deem critically important to preserving green space and unique character of Ala Moana Park. Its unreproducible qualities and aesthetics Mahalo to you, our Council members, for your continued careful consideration and oversight of matters many of us regular park users deem critically important to preserving green space and unique character of Ala Moana Park. Its unreproducible qualities and aesthetics are truly treasured by many who may or may not be speaking up.

### Written Testimony

I urge you to amend the SMA so that:

- \* NO one-acre playground can be built in Ala Moana Park, not now, not EVER. This kind of structure does not belong inside Ala Moana Beach Park for myriad sound reasons that have been urgently and clearly expressed to you by many, urgently and repeatedly.
- \* No dog park, ever. Recently, I asked a life guard if dogs are allowed at water's edge and/or IN THE WATER in the park. He told me, "we just want everyone to be happy." His response clearly implied those who were playing with their dogs in the water as we were talking would not be told to get dogs out of the water. His comments reflect the fact there's no one making sure dogs are not in the water, which

is a posted park rule, but definitely not adhered to. The rules for dogs are not taken seriously now, and certainly will not be if there's a dog park. A dog park within the park will encourage more dogs to be ON the beach and IN the water. That's not a good thing.

I urge you to change the EIS so there cannot ever be perpendicular mauka parking. That's an ill-thought out concept for safety and traffic flow reasons. We all know that. The loss of mature shade trees to accommodate this form of parking is totally unacceptable. Making the excuse that "trees are sick and need to be taken out" is fatuous, at best. Shame to those who remove those trees. Trees need to be well-cared for and treasured. More trees, not less.

Also, taking away any of the open green space to change the shape of Magic Island parking area falls under the same comments about removing mauka trees along park road. It's an inexplicably BAD PLAN and should not be allowed. The city is chewing away at its green space. It will not magically come back once greed and bad planning consumes it.

I urge you to be those who will be applauded and honored in the City's history books as being those wise, thoughtful individuals who are informed and caring enough to protect these kinds of irreplaceable treasures.

Mahalo for being committed, good custodians of what's dwindling, yet deeply treasured, in our community. truly treasured by many who may or may not be speaking up.

I urge you to amend the SMA so that:

- \* NO one-acre playground can be built in Ala Moana Park, not now, not EVER. This kind of structure does not belong inside Ala Moana Beach Park for myriad sound reasons that have been urgently and clearly expressed to you by many, urgently and repeatedly.
- \* No dog park, ever. Recently, I asked a life guard if dogs are allowed at water's edge and/or IN THE WATER in the park. He told me, "we just want everyone to be happy." His response clearly implied those who were playing with their dogs in the water as we were talking would not be told to get dogs out of the water. His comments reflect the fact there's no one making sure dogs are not in the water, which is a posted park rule, but definitely not adhered to. The rules for dogs are not taken seriously now, and certainly will not be if there's a dog park. A dog park within the park will encourage more dogs to be ON the beach and IN the water. That's not a good thing.

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Mahalo for being committed, good custodians of what's dwindling, yet deeply treasured, in our community.

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms
and Agreement

1

Name

Milton Hee

Phone

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**Email** 

milton.hee@gmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Zoning

Committee Agenda Item

Res. 20-21

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

- 1. The SMA Use Permit for Ala Moana Park should NOT be granted by this committee. There is too much public opposition to the changes which DPP seems to have ignored.
- 2, Changes that were recently agreed to by the DPP and users such as moving the special needs playground to Kakaako have not been reflected in the amended SMA.
- 3. The Dog Park has the potential to seriously endanger the health of the users of the park as the animal feces and urine will eventually penetrate into the grass and beach areas and should not be granted any exception.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and

Written Testimony

Agreement

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Name **BRAD FRYE** Phone 808-487-9535

Email BRADFRYEMAIL@GMAIL.COM

Meeting Date 02-06-2020 Council/PH Committee Zoning Agenda Item 20-21 Your position on the matter Oppose Representing Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? Yes

Written Testimony

Testimony Attachment 20200202091132\_RESOLUTION\_20-21.docx

Accept Terms and Agreement

I oppose Resolution 20-21 as drafted for the following reasons.

- 1. The Special Management Area description includes a 1-acre playground which has been informally moved out of Ala Moana Park to Kaka'ako Park. The playground should be deleted from the SMA to formalize this decision and make the SMA conform to the actual plan for Ala Moana Park.
- 2. The plan to increase parking stalls at the Park by widening the Parkway and installing perpendicular parking is needlessly expensive, destructive of Park green space and dangerous. No Alternatives were considered and there is an alternative way to add the same, or more, parking stalls that does not have these serious negative consequences. It is to increase by 20-25% the number of parking stalls in the existing Magic Island lot, and the planned larger size Keyhole lot, by redesigning them to use one-way access lanes with angle parking. This would avoid the huge expense of tearing out 1800' x 20' of grass and 40+ mature trees, widening the Parkway 16' for perpendicular parking and installing 4' sidewalks. Forward angle parking is much safer than perpendicular parking, and reverse angle is even safer. This alternative should be comparatively evaluated for its cost, impact on the green space in the Park, and parking safety before the City Council approves the parking plan in the SMA.
- 3. The plan to reshape and enlarge the Magic island lot is expensive and not necessary. Parking stalls in the existing lot can be increased 20-25% by reconfiguring the existing lot to use one-way access lanes with angle parking. This would avoid the expense of tearing out 25,000 square feet of the existing Magic Island lot and building 45,000 square feet of new parking lot, for a net destruction of 20,000 square feet of grass and trees. This alternative should be comparatively evaluated for its cost, impact on the green space in the Park, and parking safety before the City Council approves the parking plan in the SMA.
- 4. The proposed dog park grossly violates the criteria that the Ala Moana Neighborhood board developed for dog parks. It is much too small, too near busy streets, too near pedestrians, and is located in a busy park (the busiest park on Oahu). Furthermore, it is adjacent to a canal that will be polluted by canine feces run-off and urine. Lastly, the Ala Moana Neighborhood board specifically excluded the Park as an appropriate location, and identifed several others in the area that are much more favorable. The SMA should not be approved with the dog park unless its location in the Park is formally compared to other area locations, and the Neighborhood Board approves.

The above elements in the SMA should be eliminated, or modified at City Council direction, to ensure that appropriate decisions about them are made only after thorough study and evaluation, and approval by the City Council.

The City Administration has failed to properly do its job to best improve the Park at reasonable expense and with the least damage during the Park Improvement Plan and EIS. Now City Council action during the SMA process is the last chance for the citizens of Oahu to obtain an Ala Moana Park Improvement Project that truly meets their needs as taxpayers and Park users.

Name

Teri Skillman

Phone

8083894462

**Email** 

Hautree77@aol.com

Meeting Date

02-16-2020

Council/PH

Zoning

Committee

Resolution 20-21

Agenda Item Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

I strongly oppose Resolution 20-21 which still includes the playground and the dog park in the text. Why is this still being included?

As I testified before, the playground should be located next to the Children's Discovery Center in Kaka'ako. Build that larger space into an area for children and families in Honolulu. That would be unique for the City and it would support a

museum already in existence.

As a dog owner, I DO NOT support building a dog park at Ala Moana. The Parks Written Testimony Dept. needs to add a leash law to the rules for the park use so that dog owners can walk their dogs on the walking paths but a dog park would destroy this historic park.

> Catherine Richards Jones and Robert Oliver Thompson were the landscape architects for the Park and Harry Sims Bent was the Park architect who supplemented Richards and Thompson's landscape plans.

Please make the City & Co.'s priority to be maintenance of the historic space that is open, beautiful and adaptable for many events.

I strongly oppose this resolution.

**Testimony** Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

Name

Alethea Rebman

Phone

808-545-7035

Email

akr92003@yahoo.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Ala Moana Park, Resolution 20-21

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

I write in opposition to the Resolution as written. No plan should include the

Written

Testimony

playground or the dog park. The parking changes should be revisited, as it seems reasonable enough to me but many others dedicated to the park oppose it and it should not be implemented over their voices.

**Testimony** Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

Name Marilyn MIck Phone 8084797764

Email marilynmick@pobox.com

02-06-2020 Meeting Date

Council/PH

Zoning Committee

Agenda Item Resolution 20-21

Your position on the

matter

Oppose

Representing Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the hearing?

We are all familiar with the history of this SMA so no need here to go over it. Instead please allow me to get right to the point of what needs to be changed to

keep Ala Moana the People's Park.

1. remove the playground from the SMA 2. stop or modify the perpendicular parking

3. stop the dog park at Ala Moana Beach Park

4. stop or modify the sand/beach replenishment plan

Written Testimony

5. stop or modify the magic island parking lot reconfiguration to save the center

area green lawn

6. protect the historical elements of the park

7. protect the trees

8. stop spending taxpayer dollars on unnecessary projects in Ala Moana Park and

Magic Island

Mahalo, Marilyn Mick

**Testimony** Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

1

Name

Winona Holmes

Phone

808 256-8008

Email

nonaholmes@hotmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Zoning

Committee Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position

Oppose

on the matter

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the No

hearing?

140

Written Testimony My name is Nona Holmes and I oppose resolution 20-21. As a lifelong resident and 4th generation kamaaina, please just keep Ala Moana Beach Park and Magic Island as is and not trying to "improve" it with bells and whistles from other special interest groups. Oahu taxpayers have it rough just trying to keep our existing parks properly maintained and things that are broken fixed. Keep it simple, green, and maintained and

we will remain happy locals. Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion. Nona Holmes

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms

and Agreement

Name

Kevin Fung

Phone

8082956365

Email

kevin@blueplanetsurf.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH Committee Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on the

matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at No

the hearing?

Written Testimony

I am oppose to Resolution 20-21 and would like to remove the dog park,

playground and perpendicular parking proposal from Master Plan

**Testimony Attachment** 

Accept Terms and

Agreement

1

Name Phone Pamela Wong

Email

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Linuii

pwong1973@gmail.com

Meeting Date
Council/PH Committee

02-06-2020

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Zoning

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the

hearing?

No

PLEASE:

remove the playground from the SMA stop or modify the perpendicular parking

stop the dog park at Ala Moana Beach Park (the City is working on other

parks on land)

Written Testimony

stop or modify the sand/beach replenishment plan

stop or modify the magic island parking lot reconfiguration to save the

center area green lawn

protect the historical elements of the park

protect the trees

stop spending taxpayer dollars on unnecessary projects in Ala Moana

Park and Magic Island

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

1

From: Sent:

**CLK Council Info** 

Subject:

Monday, February 3, 2020 1:25 PM

Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

## **Speaker Registration/Testimony**

Name

Lei Ho

Phone

8082328050

Email

hlh1430@yahoo.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Council

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

Dear Councilmembers,

Please oppose Resolution 20-21 for the following reasons: i do not believe the Director of DPP approved of the SMA application in an informed and unbiased manner. Had she been informed of RoH laws, she would know that (all) animals are banned from Ala Moana and other parks, not just "unleashed dogs". Some well-intended and wise lawmakers long ago enacted that rule for good reason and we have not changed the law as far as I am aware. One year of insufficient testing of only water quality is too little, too late to be made aware of the dangers of inviting more problems by building a

dog park at AMRP. Likewise, she should have deleted the

playground and the perpendicular parking requests. If I were the current concessionaire, I would be checking my contract with the City

and feeling highly offended that it even suggested placing a competitor right beside me. That an additional bathroom would be erected right beside the one that we just spent thousands of tax dollars to renovate almost chokes me! I will not reiterate my

opposition to perpendicular parking on the beach road and hope that those in control will have studied the data on increased injuries. fatalities, and violence connected with that poor plan. They should also study technology predictions for the future which say that people will not be driving personal vehicles as we do now, but will ALL still need tree-produced oxygen to breathe for as long as they live! I will also not reiterate my objections to tampering with sand both at the

Written **Testimony**  shoreline as well as in the ocean and hope those in control will check with ocean scientists before doing so. Thank you for allowing me express my concerns. I am an old woman who won't live much longer, but who is very concerned for the future generations who will not be able to correct problems we create now by not making informed decisions. (Signed) Lei Ho

Testimony Attachment Accept Terms and Agreement

1

Name Malia L K Marquez

Phone 8087831759

**Email** maliamarquez71@gmail.com

02-06-2020 Meeting Date

Council/PH

Zoning Committee

Agenda Item Resolution 20-21

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

Aloha, My name is Malia Marquez and I oppose resolution 20-21. Please keep Ala

Moana Beach Park and Magic Island as is with proper maintenance.

Written The beauty of our islands is not to "add" improvements to open space. Its leaving Testimony that natural, open space alone. The only improvements we need to Ala Moana

Beach Park and Magic Island is proper care and maintenance. Mahalo for your time

on this very important matter.

Testimony

Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

Name Nancy Watanabe Phone 808-295-6163

Email nancyw@hawaiiantel.net

Meeting Date 02-06-2020

Council/PH Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position

Oppose

on the matter

0-16

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

I am opposed to Resolution 20-21 and strongly recommend killing it in its present language. Main reasons for opposition:

- 1) The plan for a playground is still in the SMA. A playground as described is not appropriate for Ala Moana Beach Park (AMBP). That issue was verbally resolved but the language continues to be in the SMA.
- 2) Oppose the plan for perpendicular parking as it will create chaos and liability for drivers (damage to cars while opening doors and moving items in and out of vehicle, accidents while backing out to leave, etc).
- 3) Oppose the plan for a dog park health and sanitation problems are a concern with dogs using the park for relieving themselves; some owners may clean up after their dogs but there will still be remnants of poop and pee on the grass and bags of waste filling the trash cans. Maintenance workers can't be expected to clean up after dogs and dog owners. Dogs would end up throughout the park walking to the area.

### Written Testimony

- 4) Oppose the sand/beach replenishment plan because there is no documentation that it would not be damaging to existing ocean life; no consideration given to the fact of rising tides.
- 5) Oppose the Magic Island parking reconfiguration; choose to save the center green lawn area.
- 6) Oppose other projects that would require eliminating trees and green.
- 7) Recommendation: the dollars not spent on the above items could go towards continued maintenance of the restroom facilities, keeping the park clean and green, adding educational signage about NOT leaving trash, environmental concerns to help make us aware of our kuleana to the land and ocean that we are enjoying.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nancy Watanabe

Testimony Attachment

Name David Davis

Phone (808) 724-4709

Email 4ddavis@gmail.com

02-06-2020 Meeting Date

Council/PH Committee Zoning

Resolution 20-21 Agenda Item

Your position on the matter Oppose

Representing Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony I OPPOSE Resolution 20-21

**Testimony Attachment** 

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

Name Zojing Wong Phone 8089551993

Email Zojing@aol.com

02-06-2020 Meeting Date Council/PH Committee Zoning

Resolution 20-21 Agenda Item

Your position on the matter Oppose Representing Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony **Testimony Attachment** 

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

Attention City Council,

I would like to express my strong opposition to Resolution 20-21. The approval of the SMA should not go forward without several amendments. Although both the Mayor and Pa'ani Kakou have stated that the one-acre playground will not be constructed in Ala Moana Park, it is still part of the SMA. What this means is that the playground can still be built, despite overwhelming community opposition and the aforementioned statements by the City Administration and the organization pushing for the park in the first place. There are several other proposals in the SMA that need to be looked at further. Sand replenishment needs much more study; the extension of the Magic Island parking lot will take away over a hundred yards of greenspace makai of the existing lot, with a minimal gain in parking stalls. The dog park is the wrong facility in the wrong place. Dogs have been banned from the Park for a reason. That much potential pollution is unacceptable in such a confined area.

Please reject Resolution 20-21. The public's opinion on these changes to the Park have not been acknowledged in content of the current SMA.

Kevin O'Leary 3390-A Kalihi St. Honolulu, HI 96819 808-843-0477

Email: freenjay1@gmail.com

Name

Donna Hashimoto

Phone

8083839632

**Email** 

dyshashimoto@gmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on the

matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak No

at the hearing?

I live in the Kakaako area and love the open, green area of Ala Moana Park.

Written Testimony

Please focus on maintaining the current infrastructure. It is such an enjoyable

park but needs security.

**Testimony** Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

1

Name

Elaine Jourdane

Phone

808 255 7379

**Email** 

ejourdane@gmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony

**Testimony Attachment** 

20200204082711\_Resolution\_20-021\_testimony\_.pdf

Accept Terms and Agreement

# Department of Planning and Permiting's Recommendation on the SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA Use Permit No. 2019/SMA-36

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment in OPPOSITION to Resolution 20-021. GRANTING A SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA (SMA) USE PERMIT FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE ALA MOANA REGIONAL PARK AND MAGIC ISLAND, AS DESCRIBED IN THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, ACCEPTED ON AUGUST 12, 2019, AT 1141, 1201, 1365, 1401, and 1605 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD WITHIN THE SMA.

I oppose Resolution 20-021 for the following reasons:

- Mayor Caldwell and Pa`anii Kākou announced on December 13, 2019, that the proposed one-acre playground would not be built in Ala Moana Beach Park and could be relocated to Kaka`ako. Therefore, the Resolution should be amended to delete any reference to the accepted FEIS which contains the playground. If not, approval of the SMA permit would allow the playground to be built at Ala Moana Beach Park.
- 2. Reference to the FEIS in the SMA application would allow for perpendicular parking along the mauka side of Ala Moana Park Drive. This would require the removal of green space and trees. Perpendicular parking is unnecessary and creates an unsafe egress. I oppose this change. Amend SMA application to delete any reference to the accepted FEIS and changes to perpendicular parking along the mauka side of ala Moana Park Drive.
- 3. Reference to the FEIS in the SMA application would allow for creating a dog park at the ewa end of the Park. The proposed dog park does not meet minimal standards for a dog park. I oppose the creation of the dog park. Amend the SMA application to delete any reference to the accepted FEIS which includes the creation of the dog park.

On Monday, February 3, 2020, the local news announced that Mayor Caldwell has scrapped plans for Blaisdell Center renovations because of the unknown final costs of construction of the rail project. Many of the proposed Ala Moana Beach Park improvements come will come with a high cost also (estimated \$144 million in 2016 dollars). It is time to scrap the high-cost grandiose plans for Ala Moana Beach Park and put tax payers money into essential upgrades and maintenance of our People's Park.

Name Eric K Komori Phone 808 2267893

Email ekomori@gmail.com

Meeting Date 02-06-2020 Council/PH Committee Zoning

Agenda Item Resolution 20-21

Your position on the matter Oppose Representing Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony

**Testimony Attachment** 20200204082840\_Resolution\_20-021\_testimony\_.pdf

Accept Terms and Agreement

# Department of Planning and Permiting's Recommendation on the SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA Use Permit No. 2019/SMA-36

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment in OPPOSITION to Resolution 20-021.

GRANTING A SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA (SMA) USE PERMIT FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE ALA MOANA REGIONAL PARK AND MAGIC ISLAND, AS DESCRIBED IN THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, ACCEPTED ON AUGUST 12, 2019, AT 1141, 1201, 1365, 1401, and 1605 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD WITHIN THE SMA.

I oppose Resolution 20-021 for the following reasons:

- 1. Mayor Caldwell and Pa`anii Kākou announced on December 13, 2019, that the proposed one-acre playground would not be built in Ala Moana Beach Park and could be relocated to Kaka`ako. Therefore, the Resolution should be amended to delete any reference to the accepted FEIS which contains the playground. If not, approval of the SMA permit would allow the playground to be built at Ala Moana Beach Park.
- 2. Reference to the FEIS in the SMA application would allow for perpendicular parking along the mauka side of Ala Moana Park Drive. This would require the removal of green space and trees. Perpendicular parking is unnecessary and creates an unsafe egress. I oppose this change. Amend SMA application to delete any reference to the accepted FEIS and changes to perpendicular parking along the mauka side of ala Moana Park Drive.
- 3. Reference to the FEIS in the SMA application would allow for creating a dog park at the ewa end of the Park. The proposed dog park does not meet minimal standards for a dog park. I oppose the creation of the dog park. Amend the SMA application to delete any reference to the accepted FEIS which includes the creation of the dog park.

On Monday, February 3, 2020, the local news announced that Mayor Caldwell has scrapped plans for Blaisdell Center renovations because of the unknown final costs of construction of the rail project. Many of the proposed Ala Moana Beach Park improvements come will come with a high cost also (estimated \$144 million in 2016 dollars). It is time to scrap the high-cost grandiose plans for Ala Moana Beach Park and put tax payers money into essential upgrades and maintenance of our People's Park.

Name

Lawrence Miike

Phone

8082391258

Email

lhmiike@hawaii.rr.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Res. 20-21

Your position

Oppose

on the matter

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

No

speak at the hearing?

> I oppose this resolution, as detailed in my previous testimonies on Res. 19-263 on Nov. 6, 2019 and at the Public Hearing on December 18, 2019. My objections to the dog park and playground are detailed there. And why is the playground still included,

when the City has relocated it to Kakaako Waterfront Park?

Written Testimony The entire application is deficient, because it does not provide all of the required materials, as detailed in my prior testimonies. A mere assertion of estimated costs without any supportive information is unreviewable, plus the SMAP estimate of \$144 million is in conflict with the estimate of \$133 million in the FEIS. If the estimated costs had been presented as one dollar or one billion dollars without supportive information, surely that would be unacceptable. So why would \$144 million?

**Testimony** Attachment

Accept Terms

and Agreement

Name

Penelope

Phone

Hazzard

Email

Pennyhazz@yahoo.com

Meeting Date

2/6/2020

Council/PH Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

5 Resolution 20-21

Your position on the

matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at

the hearing?

No

Written Testimony

I do not support this. I would like to see proposed dog park, playground and

perpendicular parking removed from application

**Testimony Attachment** 

Accept Terms and

Agreement

1

Name

Maureen Harnisch

Phone

808 398 0025

**Email** 

maureenharnisch@gmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 2021 SMA Permit Ala Moana Beach Park

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

If there is not going to be a playground as the Mayor has said, then take it out of

Written Testimony

the SMA Permit. I urge you NOT to support this resolution until the playground is

taken out of the SMA Permit. Mahalo

**Testimony** Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

1

Name

Denise Boisvert

Phone

415-845-5495

Email

infofordenise@yahoo.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

Yes

hearing?

Dear Chair Menor and Councilmembers,

As relieved as I am that the focus on the location of this proposed park has changed from Ala Moana Beach Park to the more logical Kaka'ako area near the Children's Discovery Center, I must strongly OPPOSE this resolution.

Written Testimony

Please amend and improve it by REMOVING the dog park, the playground, and the perpendicular parking proposal on the Park Drive from the EIS Master Plan and SMA Use Permit Application.

Thank you for your kind consideration!

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

. .

Name

Kim Jorgensen

Phone

415-845-5495

Email

hawaiicondo@yahoo.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

I strongly OPPOSE this resolution because the dog park, the playground, and the

Written Testimony

perpendicular parking proposal on the Park Drive have not yet been removed from the EIS Master Plan and SMA Use Permit Application.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

Name

Margaret knight

Phone

8085216652

Email

Condohi@aol.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

20-021

Your position on the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

The dog park proposed would bring in more Irresponsible people with their dogs and Create a problem for the people and children Who want to enjoy the peacefulness of the

Written Testimony

Park

The one acre playground needs to be removed from the SMA.

stop wasting taxpayers money and protect

the historical elements of the park.

Mahalo

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement

1

Name

MARSHA H BOLSON

Phone

8087546814

Email

mhbolson@gmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position on

the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to

speak at the

No

hearing?

I oppose Resolution 20-21 and believe that in order to uphold its commitment to NOT BUILD the 1-acre playground that was proposed to be built at Ala Moana Park by Pa'ani Kakou, the City Council must remove the playground from the SMA.

Additionally, the City should:

- 1. stop or modify the perpendicular parking
- 2. stop the dog park at Ala Moana Beach Park

- Written Testimony 3. stop or modify the sand/beach replenishment plan
  - 4. stop or modify the magic island parking lot reconfiguration to save the center

area green lawn

- 5. protect the historical elements of the park
- 6. protect the trees

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony against Resolution 20-21.

**Testimony** Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

Name

Jennifer Gaura

Phone

8082751576

Email

Thegauragroup@gmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH Committee Zoning

Agenda Item

20-21

Your position on the

Oppose

matter Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at

the hearing?

This water park/dog park abomination was supposedly taken out of Plans for

Ala Moana Beach Park and was relocated to Kakaako.

Written Testimony

Feels like another bait and switch by developers.

Stop turning our parks into an unwanted Disneyland. We don't need or want

anymore tourist attractions.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and

Agreement

1

Name LYNNE KOBAYASHI

Phone 808-389-2993

Email mika.oleary2@gmail.com

Meeting Date 02-06-2020

Council/PH

Committee Zoning

Agenda Item Resolution 20-21

Your position

on the matter Oppose

Representing Self

Organization
Do you wish to speak at the No

hearing?

I oppose Resolution 20-21 for the following reasons.

### THE PLAYGROUND

Before a permit for improvements at Ala Moana Regional Park and Magic Island can be under consideration, the SMA must be changed to reflect the change in status of the playground. Although Pa'ani Kakou and the City have agreed to move the proposed playground from AMBP to Kakaako, it is still an item in the current SMA. This needs to be removed before any permit request is submitted, since it is not an accurate reflection of the current situation.

### THE TRANSCRIPT OF 12/18/19 PUBLIC HEARING

The transcript of the public hearing held on December 18, 2019 at McCoy Pavilion was hastily and sloppily executed, and heavily redacted. Councilmembers must have access to the original testimony or more accurate transcription, or they are receiving information that is in some cases so incomplete as to be unreliable.

### MAGIC ISLAND PARKING RECONFIGURATION

I strongly oppose the City's plan to change the parking configuration at Magic Island. Driving cars deep into the currently unbroken sea of green to gain a few parking stalls is a wanton and careless act. Aside from the expense of removing landscaped grass, trees, and walkways to cover the area with asphalt and parking stalls, it will result in the permanent loss of contiguous green space.

Groups that I have observed using the park include tai chi practitioners, yoga classes, Korean singing groups, amateur acrobatic groups, family picnickers, small weddings, meditation groups, and exercise groups. I have seen people sitting alone, reading, in the center of the green park space of Magic Island, and couples of all ages relaxing and chatting. I have seen children learning to ride bikes through the center of the park, their parents following close behind them. From dawn till dusk, walkers, joggers, and

families with baby strollers safely negotiate the large oval swath of green that is Magic Island. People on one side, cars on the other.

In the current configuration, the parking lot is clearly separated from the recreational areas. In the proposed configuration, when the parking area is driven right down the middle (according to the FEIS, it will advance about 350 feet into the green space), the cars will be closer to park users, with increased exposure to moving vehicles, noise, and exhaust fumes. Although the proposed re-configuration claims no green space will be lost, the quality of that green space will be much diminished, for a paltry forty-six parking stalls.

### BARK PARKS

Adding off-leash dog parks to the Kewalo end of the park will destroy the park's creator's original intent. The rock garden gracing the western side of the park echoes what is left of the "oriental pond" concept on the other side of the park road.

The City proposes the dog parks as its solution to the existing problem of the presence of dogs in the park. Dog parks will not reduce the number of dogs in the park. Rather, without dedicated parking for the dog owners, it will encourage users to walk their dogs throughout the park. Once their dogs have played in the bark park, the owners might decide to take the dogs for a swim. Considering the history of the City's abysmal lack of enforcement of its own park rules, the entire Ala Moana Beach Park will become one big dog-infested park.

### Written Testimony

With bark parks come noise, smell, and feces that will need disposing. With the upcoming plastic bag ban, the last will be problematic. Maintenance must be budgeted for, and must be constant, or the Kewalo end of the park will be a pool of dog excrement. Its location right next to the canal also threatens the health and safety of ocean users.

The trees in the area proposed for the bark parks are currently used by manu-o-kū (white terns) who lay their eggs in their branches. These are breeding sites known to organizations who have been observing the area for the past four years. No study has been forwarded by the City on how the concentrated presence of off-leash animals will affect tern behavior and well-being. Resolution 20-21 mentions monitoring the trees. The point is moot, considering the testimony from dog trainer Carol Ching, who said that dog urination will destroy lawns and trees in the extremely confined area of the bark park. When the trees are gone, the birds will be gone. No amount of tree monitoring will fix that.

The proposed bark park will fence off green space from all other park users and create a special use zone for a single group. Rather than steal park space from the people who use the park, the City should encourage creative discussion among dog owners to seek other properties that are not being currently used as public park space.

### CONCLUSION

A permit should not be granted to projects that are widely unpopular, expensive, and unfeasible (or as in the case of the playground, no longer under consideration), projects that will cost the city in revenue, environmental damage, and good will, with negligible

gain.

Testimony Attachment Accept Terms and Agreement 1

Name

Pamela Y. Odo-Goto

Phone

808 634 0698

Email

PODOGOTO@twc.com

Meeting Date

22000.000.000

Council/PH

02-06-2020

Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

Resolution 20-21

Your position

Oppose

on the matter

Obbor

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish

to speak at the No

hearing?

I oppose Resolution 20-21 because it still contains items I am strongly against. The playground is still in despite the promise to move it to Kaka'ako. I oppose the perpendicular parking, the dog park, sand replenishment, and especially the modification of Magic Island.

I was at Washington Intermediate school when Magic Island was created. My classmates and I often swam there as an unofficial class gathering. I have been swimming there for the past year and am amazed how much it has improved since the 1960's. There are coral heads with fishes and schools of fishes in the lagoon, People pick seaweed for their meals. My husband and I swim/surf Ala Moana beach everyday. We see who is there on

Written Testimony heads with fishes and schools of fishes in the lagoon, People pick seaweed for their meals. My husband and I swim/surf Ala Moana beach everyday. We see who is there on weekday mornings and afternoons. We bring guests to watch the fireworks on Friday nights. We see how well used every area of the park is on weekends. Please, stop all unnecessary work/embellishment. We, locals, do not need anything done to our park. It is where we can spread out and enjoy green open spaces vs our tight cramped apartments near the noisy freeway and streets. There has already been unnecessary spending - ie: the coconut trees planted at night on the makai side of the park. These coconut tress not only took up our picnic area but will now cost the city a great deal of money to maintain, not to mention the possible danger of fonds and coconuts falling on someone or a vehicle. Why is the mayor and his office not listening to our repeated request to leave Ala Moana park as it is? Why are we wasting time and money? mahalo for your kind and patient consideration.

Testimony Attachment Accept Terms and Agreement

Name

Holly Yamada

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8083483668

Email

yamadahj@gmail.com

Meeting Date

02-06-2020

Council/PH Committee

Zoning

Agenda Item

20-21

Your position on the matter

Oppose

Representing

Self

Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement

1